

check when receiving a unit whether it is indicated to be a possible duplication of said unit, the possible duplication showing that said unit was resent because no response was received.”

Riley et al. merely teaches that a receiving node compares a transaction ID in a received packet with transactions IDs of earlier received packets; on the basis of that comparison, the receiving node deduces whether the packet is assumable to be a duplicate. As a result, the receiving node receives no indication of a possible duplication.

The Office Action accurately recognizes that Riley teaches: “If no acknowledgement is received, the sender node can then transmit a duplicate of the original message;” (column 1, lines 26-28) that passage is part of the description of the conventional art at the time that Riley’s application was filed. However, the Office Action incorrectly assumes that such a teaching would necessarily require that the duplicate of the original message contain any indication, or otherwise indicate, that the duplicate message is in fact a duplicate.

In fact, the Office Action is merely taking the quoted passage out of context because the sentence following that passage reads as follows: ”However, this raises the problem of distinguishing between original messages and duplicate messages.” (see, column 1, lines 28-30). Thus, Riley expressly recognizes that the approach described in the quoted passage requires that an original message and its copy are identical.

Accordingly, in the body of Riley’s specification, Riley subsequently teaches that, in order to identify duplicate messages, a receiving node must compare transaction IDs of each received message with transaction IDs of earlier received message because there is no other way to separate original messages from possible duplicates.

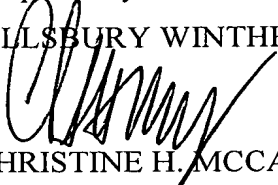
To the contrary, in the claimed invention, a duplicate is indicated as such to the receiving node; i.e. the original message differs from the duplicate message. Therefore, claims 1-22 are patentable over Riley et al. Accordingly, claims 1-22 are allowable.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, the Applicant requests issuance of a Notice of Allowance indicating the allowability of the pending claims. If anything further is necessary to place the application in condition for allowance, the Applicant requests that the Examiner contact the Applicant’s undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

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Respectfully submitted,
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